



# FBINAA | CA NEWSLETTER

## Message from our Chapter President



Dear Fellow Associates:

As my presidential year comes to an end, I certainly had not envisioned a term filled with protests, riots, wildfires, a global pandemic, and the most tumultuous presidential election of our lives. 2020 has certainly brought a multitude of leadership challenges for each of us. I have seen and read about many of our California Chapter members leading through crises as well as standing up for what is right throughout the year. It's awesome to see great people doing great things.

One of the many disappointing outcomes of 2020 was the cancellation of so many fantastic networking and training opportunities for our members. In addition to our quarterly division events, that we hope to start up again in 2021, we have a series of great events planned throughout the year including:

Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar (LEEDS), Lake Tahoe, CA, May 17-20, 2021

FBINAA National Conference, Orlando, FL, July 7-10, 2021

FBINAA California Chapter Re-Trainer, San Diego, CA, October 5-7, 2021

In my President's message in June, I talked about the FBINAA Foundation and the wonderful things it is doing for our members and their families. At our October 23rd meeting, your Chapter Executive Board voted to make a \$5,000 donation to the Foundation. We believe in their mission and are happy the Chapter was able to support them with their endeavors. I encourage everyone to check them out at [www.fbinaafoundation.org](http://www.fbinaafoundation.org) and support this tremendous cause.

I look forward to supporting our 2021 Chapter President, Craig Chew, and re-connecting with many of you that I didn't get to see this year. I feel I have a lot of ground to make up in my presidential commitments to the Chapter and I plan on doing that in the coming year. I can't wait to see many of you at our future events and hearing how you led your organizations through the toughest year of our careers. Thank you for doing what you do and being who you are.

Be safe. Be healthy. Be kind.

Your brother,

**Eric S. Sonstegard**

Eric S. Sonstegard, President  
FBINAA, California Chapter  
Session #246

*“Leadership is not about titles, positions or flow charts. It is about one life influencing another”*

John Maxwell

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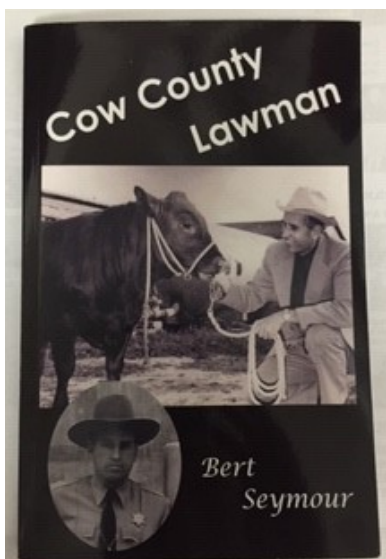
# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

In 2014, I, your Historian, wrote about a member, Bert Seymour, NA 80, yes that is correct, EIGHT ZERO! Bert had contacted me to end his membership as he felt that at 90 years old he had nothing to contribute to the Association. I was the Chapter Secretary at the time and I asked Bert if I could interview him. He readily agreed and after listening to his fascinating life story and his escapades after joining the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, the first deputy hired after WWII, I decided to write about him. My article was published in the National magazine and that prompted a visit from then Captain James Fryhoff (now Police Chief) who was with the Ventura Co. sheriff's Department at the time and wanted to learn more about their history. James and another member of his department drove up to Sacramento and we had a fun afternoon looking at old photos (Bert had been one of the first CSI officers and a keen photographer).

When Bert attended the FBI Academy they were felling trees for where the academy now sits in Quantico. Bert had his class picture with J. Edgar Hoover at the helm. Apparently Mr. Hoover did not care to wait while they fidgeted around getting the picture just right, so he had a stand in while the formalities were occurring, then would take his place at the front as soon as the picture was ready to be taken. Amazingly, Bert still has all his class notes from back in the day, all nicely typed up by his lovely wife, Nancy, who accompanied him on the trip, together with their three young children and one mother-in-law! In that period, there was no housing, you were given a list of Boarding houses and you called and booked a place from the list. How things have changed!

Bert has been a loyal member ever since he graduated, I believe he must be our longest running member ever. He has spoken at our NA lunch, very funny too as he has a great sense of humor, he has attended BBQ's at members houses and we attended his wife's birthday party. Since COVID, not much has been happening and a big event passed by... Bert's 96th birthday! Not one to sit idle while the rest of the world waits for COVID to pass, Bert and his wife Nancy went about writing a book about Bert's adventures in law enforcement. The book is titled, "Cow County Lawman" (I told you he had a great sense of humor). The book is a quick read and a lot of fun, it really does give you a sense of how far we have come in law enforcement and yes, Bert mentions the NA.

Bert and Nancy are a wonderful example to us all and Bert once told me he never dreamt that fifty years on the NA would give him something to live for, but it did and now he is giving us something back. Happy reading!



Bert's book



Bert wearing that very same Stetson that is on the book cover. Now 75 years old (the hat not the book)



Bert with his yellow brick.



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT CONT...



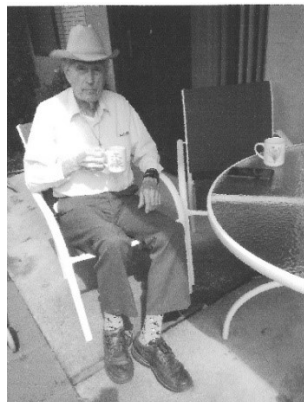
I am writing to share the news that at age 96 I have written a book.

It's about my 29 years as a

## COW COUNTY LAWMAN

starting as a fingerprint technician in 1946 and going up through the ranks; retiring as Undersheriff in 1975.

I had a lot of fun reminiscing and I hope that the book will be a fun read for those who choose to read it.



Find it on Facebook and e-Bay under "Cow County Lawman"



# SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION NEWS

## San Jose Police Emerald Society



Past President, Ken Tanaka, who is very active in the FBINAA California Chapter, sent me some information on a friend of his. Also a NA grad and a former co-worker from San Jose PD, now **Chief of Police for Gustine PD, Ruben Chavez (NA 232)**. When Ruben is not working as chief of police he is volunteering his own time as a member of the San Jose Police Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band. This is another way one of our NAA members gives back to our profession in a volunteer capacity. In addition to playing in the band, Ruben also volunteers at events and for the 2016 Monterey Conference he worked as a "bartender" in the Hospitality Suite. Ruben remains an active NAA member and hosted several divisional luncheons, one of which I attended and can be seen in a previous newsletter.



This photo of Ruben in his Pipe and Drum Band uniform was taken recently for a memorial honoring a slain SJPd officer killed in the line of duty in 1970. Ruben gave the eulogy at the memorial. The pipe band provided the traditional music for the service.

The band was formed in 2017 when they performed their first police memorial and had their fundraiser. The band obtained their 501(c)(3) and is made up of approximately 17 pipers and 8 drummers. The pipers are at different levels and the newer pipers receive instruction by other pipe instructors in the band. The band is open to all experienced pipers and drummers, especially current or retired law enforcement. So, if you have a skill and want to join a worthy and very fun cause, email the band at [sjpoliceemeralds@gmail.com](mailto:sjpoliceemeralds@gmail.com).



The band performs at events for fallen officers and those who have died in the line of duty. The band will also provide a police presence to those retired officers who have passed away, that is in addition to performing at ceremonies, parades, police academy graduations, opening ceremonies, memorials, sporting events and fundraisers. The band averages over 25 band appearances a year.



# SACRAMENTO DIVISION NEWS

Attending NA events is always a lot of fun and a wealth of information, more importantly it is one of the best networking opportunities out there. As COVID has halted our NA events, I thought we could do some Newsletter Networking and in this edition you will be reading about a couple of our members, so here is one more.

As your Historian, I urge you to write and give me your story, hobby, life experience, career move, anything about yourself, along with a couple of pictures so the membership can get to know you.

The following is a member who has attended just about every luncheon and conference since he became a member, he sets a great example and here is a little about him. Let me introduce long time member **Charlie Mauch, NA 152**. Charlie writes:

As a student at Lodi High School, I received many traffic citations, this was costly and I told the High School Counselor that when I grew up, I wanted to be the giver, not the receiver, of traffic citations!

In the 1960's I enlisted in the US Marine Corps and served in Vietnam. After my enlistment was up, I enrolled in a Police Science Class at San Joaquin Delta College and later graduated from Stanislaus University with a BA in Police Science. By then I had a strong interest in law enforcement and still remembered all those citations!

My Law Enforcement Career started in March of 1967 and I completed a variety of assignments in the department. In 1988 as a Lieutenant I went to the **FBI Academy at Quantico VA Class 152**. It was a great experience meeting and working with law enforcement officers from different law enforcement agencies. Upon completion of the FBI Academy I returned to my agency and started attending the FBINAA California Chapter Meetings. I've been a member of the California Chapter for a total of 32 years. I worked at the Lodi Police Department for 35 years attaining the rank of Captain and was assigned as the Support Services Division Commander which consisted of Narcotics, Street Crime Unit, General Investigations, Records, Property and Dispatch. I retired from that position in 2002. By the time I retired I had suffered through 13 knee surgeries and a host of other injuries, so it was time. I really enjoyed working at Lodi PD and if I had my choice (and my knees), I'd still be there.

I remember an officer, Sierra Brucia, on his first day at Lodi PD. He was an awesome police officer and now he's the Chief. It's good seeing those young officers progress and rise up the ranks. In the meantime, I have been making the most of retirement, by traveling, attending events and conferences, both State and National, and in 2016 I purchased my dream car. Who wouldn't want a Porsche 911S convertible. The icing on the cake was getting my license plate, "NA152ND". I have had the best time driving to conferences and Chapter Meetings in my car. It has been a source of conversation and fun. Unfortunately arthritis in my knees is now making it difficult for me to get out of the Porsche, so I will soon have to sell it for a vehicle that's higher off the ground. Having a Porsche has been a great experience and I am blessed to have been able to own one. We don't know what life has in store for us, so live your dream and make the most of every day. See you at the next event.



Charlie and his dream car, a black Porsche convertible and proudly showing off his FBINAA personalized license plate.





# LOS ANGELES DIVISION NEWS



Hello LA Division,

I'm looking forward to putting 2020 behind us and I pray that 2021 brings all of us good health, peace, and a return to some type of normalcy in our lives. 2020 has reinforced the most valuable aspect of the FBINAA California Chapter is the people. I miss our quarterly lunches and was saddened that our state conference in Monterey was canceled this year. My hope was to end 2020 with some type of a modified holiday luncheon. Unfortunately, with the Governor's restrictions a luncheon is just not possible.

I'm asking members from the Los Angeles Division to communicate with me regarding any news that can be included in future newsletters and/or for the monthly Chapter Chat. Please email any noteworthy news to [losangelesvp@fbinaacalifornia.com](mailto:losangelesvp@fbinaacalifornia.com) so it can be shared with the rest of the membership.

I hope 2021 will bring us together again. Until then I wish all of you good health and a very happy holiday season!

All the best,

Randy Goddard, 2020 - 4th Vice President (LA Division)  
Captain, LAPD  
FBINA Session 267



# SAN DIEGO DIVISION NEWS



Congratulations to recently retired Chula Vista Police Department Captain **Vern Sallee (Session #270)**. Vern retired after 25 years of service to Chula Vista PD, his last 5 ½ years as a Captain. Vern is one of the country's leading law enforcement experts in the use of Drones as First Responders. He built and managed Chula Vista PD's groundbreaking Unmanned Aerial Surveillance (UAS) Team from the ground up. To date the unit has over 20 aircraft, 16 pilots, and has flown over 3,700 missions, and is considered one of the more successful and robust UAS Law Enforcement Programs in the world.

Vern has presented on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle integration at the FBINAA National Conference (2019), IACP (2019, UNC2019 (Norway) and has served as a subject matter expert with the COPS office, and as an expert on the 2020 Presidential Commission 2020 on Law Enforcement and Public Safety on the topic of public safety drones.

Vern's retirement didn't last long as he was hired by Axon as an expert for their purpose-built drone piloting application. He will be working with agencies and advising on best practices for new or existing drone operations. Vern can be reached at [vsallee@axon.com](mailto:vsallee@axon.com).



# CHAPTER SECRETARY MAKES NEWS



## **CA CHAPTER SECRETARY MAKES PARLIAMENTARIAN FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE.**

Maxie C. A. Santiago is the Secretary, and Past President, for the FBI National Academy Associates, Inc., California Chapter. He previously served as the Deputy Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and was a distinguished member of the CHP for 30 years. He represented the CHP on the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Homeland Security Committee and Highway Safety Committee. He was formerly recognized as a Certified Inspector General by the Association of Inspectors General and a Certified Law Enforcement Auditor by the International Law Enforcement Auditors Association. He currently serves as a member of the Deadly Force Review Board for the California Department of Corrections

and Rehabilitation. Deputy Commissioner (ret.) Santiago was instrumental in creating several firsts for the CHP such as a nationally recognized computer crimes investigation unit, a joint CHP-FBI Cyber terrorism task force, a Special Weapons and Tactics Team, and was a key team member in implementing the Amber Alert system throughout California which has resulted in the safe recovery of over 337 abducted children. In 2005, he was sworn in as a Special Officer of the Louisiana State Police (LSP) during emergency operations in the New Orleans region where he oversaw 115 CHP personnel engaged in search and rescue and law enforcement operations.

Deputy Commissioner (ret.) Santiago earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement Management and Investigation from California State University, Sacramento. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar, and the Law Enforcement Command College of the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

He has been a member of the IACP since 2005 and served on the Crime Prevention Committee from 2017 to 2020 and is a member of the Private Sector Liaison Section and Retired Chiefs of Police Section. Deputy Commissioner (ret.) Santiago is a member of the IACP, Police Executive Research Forum, FBI National Academy Associates, FBI National Executive Institute Associates, FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, and California Peace Officers Association.

Deputy Commissioner (ret.) Santiago is an author and law enforcement trainer on topics ranging from automated speed enforcement technology, emergency incident planning and operations, tactical operations, law enforcement auditing and conducting law enforcement investigations. Deputy Commissioner (ret.) Santiago proudly served our nation in the California Army National Guard and in the U.S. Army Reserve for over 21 years. He is a veteran of the Persian Gulf War and was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, California Federal Service Ribbon, Liberation of Kuwait Medal (Government of Saudi Arabia), and Kuwait Liberation Medal (Government of Kuwait). He is a graduate of the U.S. Army MP School Basic Course,





# IMPORTANT MESSAGE RE: DUES FROM OUR CHAPTER SECRETARY

Our Chapter Secretary, Max Santiago, has the following message:

“We appreciate your ongoing support of our Chapter. You can expect a membership dues renewal invoice from the FBINAA National Office in early 2021. In order to ensure that you continue to receive FBINAA news and notices of training opportunities please log onto your profile at [www.fbinaa.org](http://www.fbinaa.org) using your member number as your user name, and update the email and contact information we have on file for you. We have found that when members retire or transfer agencies, they sometimes forget to update their profiles and we lose touch with them. If you retired in 2020, or plan on retiring in 2021, be sure to change your profile to “retired” so that you qualify for the lower retiree dues. Please contact our Chapter Secretary Max Santiago @ [secretary@fbinaacalifornia.com](mailto:secretary@fbinaacalifornia.com) if you need assistance logging into [www.fbinaa.org](http://www.fbinaa.org), changing your status, or have any questions regarding your membership.”

Thanks,

Max Santiago

FBINAA Membership Dues Amounts Effective January 1, 2020

Category	National Dues	California Chapter Dues	Total Dues
Active Sworn	\$95 <sup>1</sup>	\$30	\$125
Active Sworn with 20+ Years of continued NA membership	\$95 <sup>1</sup>	\$25	\$120
Retired	\$50 <sup>2</sup>	\$25	\$75
Retired with 20+ Years of continued NA membership	\$50 <sup>2</sup>	\$20	\$70
California Chapter Past President – Active Sworn	\$95 <sup>3</sup>	\$0	\$95
California Chapter Past President – Retired	\$50 <sup>4</sup>	\$0	\$50
Active FBI Agents	\$95 <sup>5</sup>	\$30	\$125
Retired FBI Agents	\$50 <sup>6</sup>	\$30	\$80

Note: If the invoice for dues provided by the FBINAA National Office differ from the above listed amounts, please contact FBI National Academy Associates, Inc., California Chapter Secretary Max Santiago at [Secretary@fbinaacalifornia.com](mailto:Secretary@fbinaacalifornia.com) or 858-468-9968 for assistance.

<sup>1</sup> Increased by \$5 by the National Executive Board effective January 1, 2020

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.



# Thank you letter from the Charitable Foundation



## FBINAA Charitable Foundation

*the heart and helping hands of the Association*

November 5, 2020

Eric S. Sonstegard  
President, FBINAA California Chapter

Dear President Sonstegard,

*Eric*

The Board of Directors of the FBINAA Charitable Foundation would like to express our deepest appreciation to you and the Chapter for your generous donation of \$5,000. The Foundation is the "Heart and Helping Hands" of the FBI National Academy Associates, the world's strongest law enforcement leadership network.

Your contribution will make it possible to assist FBINAA members and their families who find themselves in difficult life situations and to provide professional development and educational scholarships to our members, their children and grandchildren.

Our Foundation exists because of your commitment, concern, and willingness to share and pool your resources with FBINAA members and other contributors from around the world. The Foundation's Board of Directors and I are honored to serve the Foundation and together we will make a difference for the FBINAA family, our fellow law enforcement leaders and our professional community.

This letter is an official receipt for your generous tax-deductible contribution. No goods or services, in part or whole, have been provided in exchange for the donation.

Again, thank you for supporting the Foundation!

Sincerely,

*Douglas Muldoon*  
Douglas Muldoon  
Chair  
FBINAA Charitable Foundation

*Eric  
Thanks to you and your board for  
supporting the foundation*

320 S. Lecanto Hwy., #165 Lecanto, FL 34460

The FBI National Academy Associates Charitable Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization as recognized by the IRS and is not a part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or acting on behalf of the FBI.

## GLAD NEWS:

- Congratulations on their promotion goes out to:



Congratulations to **Chris Soria, NA 257**, who was sworn in as the new Chief of Livingston PD. Chris started his career in 1984 as a Police Reserve Officer and rose through the ranks to Police Captain and was serving as the Acting Chief for the department.



Congratulations and farewell to **Trouper Snow, NA 277**, who will be leaving the National Park Service having accepted a position as Chief of Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Although Trouper will be leaving the California Chapter, I have no doubt he will continue his NA activities in his new State.



Congratulations to **Pedro Espinoza, NA270**. who was sworn in as the new Police Chief of Gilroy PD. Chief Espinoza is a 25-year law enforcement veteran who started at Gilroy PD in 2003 and worked his way up to become a Captain. Prior to working for the Gilroy Police Department, Chief Espinoza worked in Vacaville as a patrol officer and detective and the UC Davis Police Department as a patrol officer.



Congratulations and welcome to **Suzanne Turner**, who was named the S.A.C. in charge of the San Diego Office. Prior to joining the FBI Ms. Turner served a a Sheriff's Deputy and a Police Officer in Ohio.

## MORE GLAD NEWS:

### Retirements:



Belated congratulations to Police Chief **Dave Carmichael, NA 242**, who retired from Campbell PD in December of 2019 and took off to enjoy his retirement by moving to Hawaii.



Congratulations to Past President and Chief of La Mesa PD, **Walt Vasquez, NA 220**, who retired at the end of August. We wish you a healthy and happy retirement.

⇒ *Where it all began, Walt with another CA Chapter Past President, Ken Tanaka. Both NA 220.*



Congratulations to Galt Police Chief **Tod Sockman, NA 230**, who announced his retirement, planned for this November after serving 4 1/2 years with Galt PD. Chief Sockman came from West Sacramento PD after serving there for 18yrs. Previous to that he served ten years with security police in the USAF. We wish you all the best Tod.



Congratulations to Chula Vista PD Captain **Vern Sallee, NA270**, who retired after 25 years of service. Captain Sallee is active in the San Diego Chapter, attending events and serving on the scholarship committee.

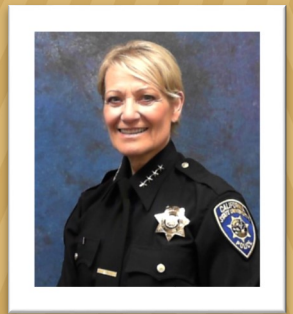


Congratulations to Chief of Mountain View PD, **Max Bosel, NA 255**, who will be retiring at the end of the year. From all of Max's fellow Chiefs on the Santa Clara County Chief's Association and all who know and have worked with Max, he will be sorely missed. Enjoy your retirement Max, you have earned it!

## Contact Us

Please call our Historian, Gina Di Napoli, if you have information you would like to have put in the Newsletter or if you have information you feel our members would enjoy reading.

We are also interested in any events which would include our members.



Gina Haynes Di Napoli

(916) 849-4462

[Historian@fbinaacalifornia.com](mailto:Historian@fbinaacalifornia.com)

Visit us on the web at [www.fbinaacalifornia.com](http://www.fbinaacalifornia.com)

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS:

**BIG REMINDER FOR THOSE BEING PROMOTED, TRANSFERING TO ANOTHER AGENCY OR RETIRING...PLEASE UPDATE YOUR EMAIL INFORMATION, SO THE CHAPTER CAN STAY IN TOUCH AND KEEP YOU UPDATED. THANK YOU!**



# MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER



## AmazonSmiles Program & 5.11 program

Dear California Chapter member or friend,

Do you shop on Amazon? Did you know that at **no cost to you**, .5% of all of your Amazon purchases can be donated to the California Chapter of the FBINAA!

It's easy! Instead of logging on to the regular Amazon web site, go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2763282> and log in using your regular Amazon log in name and password. Please note that by using AmazonSmile there is **no increase in the amount you pay for your item.** AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Please support our Chapter at no cost to you by starting your shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2763282>